



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPTROLLER
109 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0109**

April 27, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Final Army Guidance on Implementation of the Travel and Transportation Reform Act (TTRA) of 1998

On October 19, 1998, the President signed TTRA into law. This legislation directed the Administrator of the General Services Administration (GSA) to develop implementing regulations. On January 19, 2000, GSA published Amendment 90 to the Federal Travel Regulation as their final rule Implementing TTRA. The Under Secretary of the Defense (Comptroller) (USD (C)) published DoD implementation guidance on February 18, 2000. This guidance is included in current revision of Volume 9, Travel Policy and Procedures of the DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoD 7000.14R). Attached is the Army's final guidance for implementation of TTRA.

According to the DoD guidance, "the Secretary of the Army, with the approval of the USD (C), may exempt any expenses, personnel, type or class of expenses, or type and class of personnel from the required provisions of TTRA." Based on this authority, we requested and the USD (C) approved two additional exemptions for the Army (e.g., PCS travel and infrequent travelers). Our position is that given the numerous personnel and expense exemptions provided, further Army exemptions are not required at this time, although requests from the MACOMs will be duly considered.

Erroneous information has been published concerning denial of reimbursement if travelers fail to use the government travel charge card for authorized government travel expenses. The DoD guidance specifically states that "failure to use the travel card shall not be a basis for refusing to reimburse the traveler for otherwise appropriate charges."

I encourage you to work with your commanders and managers to implement TTRA in an intelligent and reasonable manner. In addition, please work with your Civilian Personnel Advisory Center to ensure your statutory labor relations obligations are met prior to implementing any changes to bargaining unit members' conditions of employment.

My point of contact for this action is Mr. Michael Petty, (703) 695-3225, DSN: 225-3225 or e-mail pettytm@hqda.army.mil.


Ernest J. Gregory
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Financial Operations)

Attachment

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CC:

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